

1916

# MUSTANG DAILY

2005

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

## TODAY'S WEATHER

High 77°

Low 43°



East pounds West  
with 38 point  
unanswered run

IN SPORTS, 12

Interview with  
up-and-coming  
New York band  
French Kiss

IN ARTS &amp; CULTURE, 6

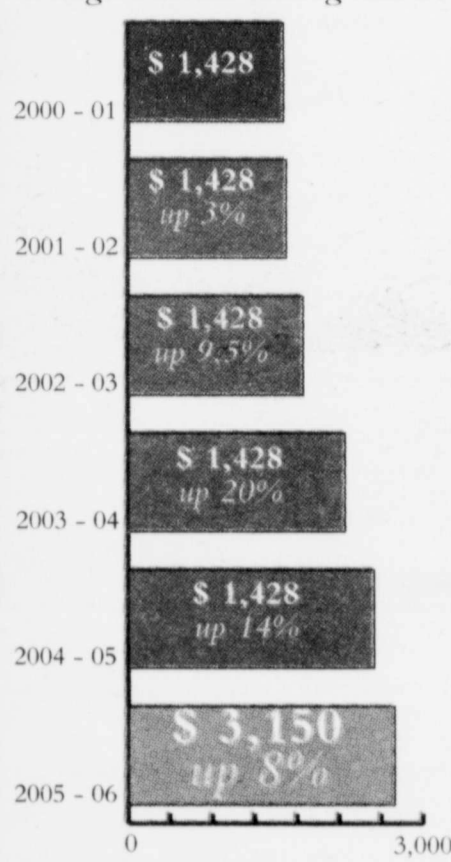


Volume LXVIII, Number 55

Wednesday, January 19, 2005

Mustangdaily@calpoly.edu

## Past fee increases average increase among CSUs



KATIE ZEALEAR MUSTANG DAILY

## CA budget hits CSU campuses

Allison Terry  
MUSTANG DAILY

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposed 2005-06 budget honors the agreement he made with California State University officials, but it may still be inadequate to maintain or improve the quality of higher education in California.

On Jan. 10, Gov. Schwarzenegger released his proposed budget including his plans for California State University funding. According to a statement released by the California State University, the governor honored the higher education compact, which is a six-year plan that the governor will provide certain increased percentages of funds for specific programs.

CSU officials said they were pleased with the governor's proposed budget because California is experiencing a \$9 billion deficit.

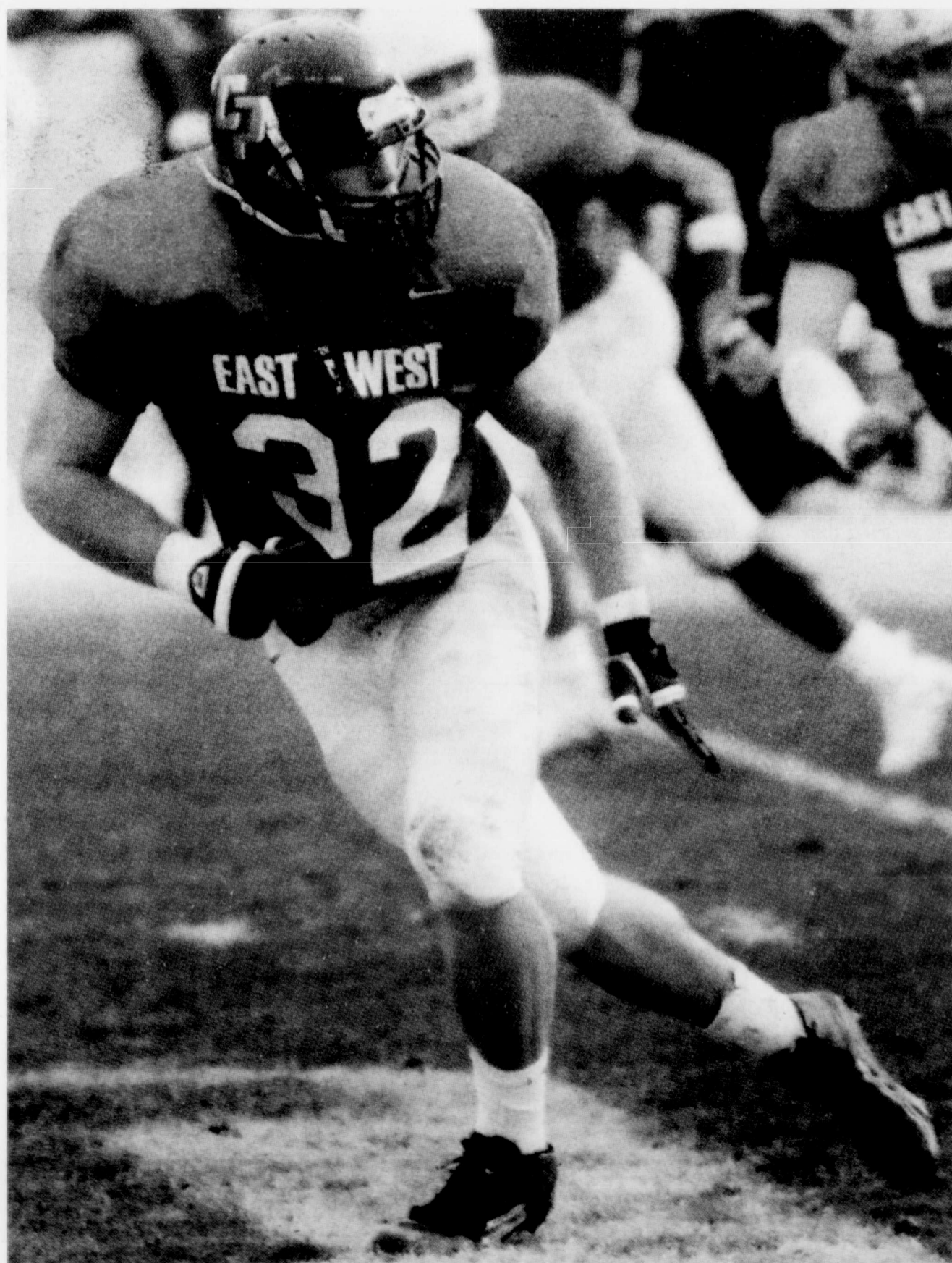
"The governor provided what was agreed upon in the compact, which was generous because many more agencies in the state were expecting more money," said Clara Potes-Fellow, manager of media relations for the CSU. "The state financial situation is still very precarious."

Under the compact, the CSU had to compensate funding by issuing a student fee increase for 2005-06, generating \$101.2 million. The budget requests an 8 percent increase for

see CSU, page 2

## ALL-STAR SHINES

Mustang linebacker Jordan Beck represents Poly football in all-star game. See page 12



COURTESY PHOTO

## Abbas travels to Gaza for cease-fire talks

Ibrahim Barzak  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas traveled to Gaza on Tuesday for meetings with militants, saying he is hopeful he can persuade them to halt attacks on Israel, but a bombing attack shortly after his arrival cast a shadow over the prospects.

A Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up near a major road used by Israeli settlers and soldiers in the southern Gaza Strip, wounding at least six Israelis. A Palestinian bystander was also injured, according to Palestinian rescue officials. The Hamas militant group claimed

responsibility.

Earlier, as Abbas headed to the Gaza Strip, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon warned the Palestinians that time was running out for them to take action.

Abbas said in an interview that Israel must do its part by halting military operations.

"I am going to Gaza with the hopes of reaching an agreement," Abbas said in the West Bank city of Ramallah shortly before his departure. He arrived in Gaza just before nightfall, meeting with leaders of his Fatah Party and security commanders. Officials said no meetings with militants were planned for the evening.

Abbas has ruled out using force against the militants, despite Israel's insistence that he crack down.

The bombing at the Gush Katif intersection came just two hours after Abbas arrived in Gaza, evidence that militants will not give up attacks against Israelis easily. Since Israel announced a year ago that it would pull out of Gaza in the summer, militants have been stepping up attacks, trying to show that they are driving the Israelis out.

Abbas met Tuesday with David Pearce, the U.S. consul-general in Jerusalem, and said he is serious

see Abbas, page 2

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE

## Black students travel to Washington

Impact, a Cal Poly bible study group, is trying to become a recognized club so it can participate in campus events

Caitlin Donnell  
MUSTANG DAILY

As part of Cal Poly's Campus Crusade for Christ, one Cal Poly student and one recent graduate joined 2,000 other black students at a national conference in Washington, D.C. from Dec. 27 to Jan. 1, representing a group on campus called Impact, a black Bible study group.

"The national conference was a life changing experience," electrical engineering senior Daniel Wesonga said. "It was a great ethnic and cultural experience for me."

Wesonga went to the national conference with the leader of Impact, Jonathan McAlister, who coaches ethnic student ministries through Campus Crusade. McAlister graduated from Cal Poly with an architecture degree in June 2004.

"Impact is a national ministry movement reaching out to African-American students," Wesonga said. "Impact is now trying to change the focus from being a bible study to do more evangelism and reaching out to the community."

Impact at Cal Poly is part of the Cal Poly club Campus Crusade for Christ, and is trying to get club status on campus. McAlister said that Impact is part of the Ethnic Student Ministries within Campus Crusade. There is also a group called Epic designed for Asian-American students and a group called Destino reaching out to Hispanic-American students.

"Impact is about mobilizing and emerging African American leaders to affect change on campus, in the community and throughout the world," McAlister said. "We are present on campus and our group hopes to play a role in creating a greater cohesiveness of the black community on campus."

Wesonga participated in many different seminars and focus groups while at the national conference. In addition, there was a day of outreach where students traveled to the rough neighborhoods outside of Washington, D.C. distribute boxes of love-containing food and items that the people needed.

see Washington, page 2



# CSU

continued from page 1

undergraduates and student enrolled in CSU teacher credential programs. For graduate students, fees will increase by 10 percent.

"The governor is raising taxes on students and calling them fees. This is not responsible and undermines the affordability of the CSU," said John Travis, president of the California Faculty Association and political science professor at Humboldt State University, in a press release.

For Cal Poly students, fees will increase from \$1,244 to \$1,344 (College of Liberal Arts) and from \$1,324 to \$1,430 (all other colleges) for undergraduates. For graduate students, fees would increase from \$1,406 to \$1,518 (CLA)

and from \$1,486 to \$1,605 (all other colleges).

The compact also includes funding for a 2.5 percent annual enrollment growth in order to curb decreased enrollment the CSU experienced in 2004-05. This proposed budget would provide \$63.7 million to serve an additional 10,000 students for the 2005-06 academic year.

"We are encouraged by the support the CSU is receiving from the governor in this budget cycle," CSU Chancellor Charles Reed said in a statement. "Funding for enrollment growth begins to restore student access from the previous year's enrollment decreases and reductions in CSU operations."

California's Master Plan for Higher Education promises to admit all qualified students into the CSU system; however,

due to budget cuts in 2004-05, more than 10,000 students were not admitted.

"The compact doesn't even call for enough money to accept the qualified students who wanted to enter the CSU this September," Travis said. "And the compact does nothing to reach the 10,000 students the CSU turned away this academic year."

There will also be a 3 percent General Fund increase for 2005 to 2007 and 4 percent increase from 2007 to 2011. The General Fund covers CSU costs, including salary increases, health benefits, maintenance and inflation. This budget fulfilled the trustee's request, providing \$211.7 million in new revenue for the CSU's 2005-06 budget, a 4.4 percent increase in CSU General Fund support.

The CSU has experienced a budget reduction of \$522 million during the

past three years, resulting enrollment reductions, cuts in student services and an inability to make progress on a growing faculty and staff salary gap.

"Three years of budget reduction have not allowed the CSU to meet the overwhelming demand for student access," said Richard West, CSU executive vice chancellor and chief financial officer. "This funding for the CSU is a sound investment for our students and California's academic future."

The budget must be approved by the legislature by June, but must go through several review processes before then. In February, the Legislative Analyst's Office will review the budget. Budget subcommittee meetings will be conducted in March and April after which the governor will announce his May revise.

"The objective is to ensure a bright

future for the young people in California. The CSU and all of higher public education is what makes this state an innovative leader and one of the largest economic players in the world," Travis said.

CFA research shows the CSU will need another 1.5 percent increase for enrollment growth. This will admit 4,800 additional students to the CSU. Also, the university would need an additional 1.5 percent base budget (about \$30 million) to ensure the students who are able to enroll in the CSU get the classes and the quality of instruction they need.

"The governor says he has stopped the bleeding. But by under-funding the CSU, he is slashing access to college for thousands of qualified students. This budget doesn't heal the CSU," Travis said.

# Washington

continued from page 1

"I want to bring back my passion and a new attitude from this conference," Wesonga said. "Impact brings

nonbelievers together, I get to know more African-American on campus and we can draw a network of people to weave together the fabric of the African-American community on campus and in the San Luis Obispo community."

In gaining club status, Wesonga said the group hopes to participate in Open House, Week of Welcome and reach out to local churches to bring more exposure to the group, gain more members and reach out to the campus and the community.

McAlister said there are 10 active students involved with Impact on campus and the group follows the national Impact Movement in its mission of "African-American emerging leaders taking the truth of Jesus Christ to the campus, community and world."

"We provide a place for African American college students to go and gather and have a worship experience," McAlister said.

Impact holds Bible studies every Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the Multicultural Center in the University Union.

# Abbas

continued from page 1

about dealing with the militants but needs time to reach an agreement, according to a top Palestinian official. The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Abbas had asked the Americans to pressure Israel to be patient with Abbas.

Sharon suspended contact with Abbas after an attack on a Gaza border crossing last week that killed six Israeli civilians. Sharon also has threatened a major raid into Gaza to stop militants from firing rockets, but has held off any large-scale action.

Sharon met with his army chief and other top commanders at the Erez crossing on the Gaza border Tuesday, seeking answers on how to stop repeated rocket and mortar fire on Israeli communities. He said the

attacks are unacceptable and that the military must act quickly.

"We need to deal with this at the earliest possible stage," Sharon told the commanders. "The more time passes, and if we signal that Israel is willing to accept such things, the harder it will be to deal with this in the future."

Sharon also warned Abbas, who took office Saturday, that Israel's patience is wearing thin. "Abu Mazen doesn't need a settling-in period. It's not as if he doesn't know what's happening in the field," Sharon said, using Abbas' nickname.

Israeli defense officials said that wide international opposition to a large-scale Israeli raid is tying their hands. The European Union and Jordan urged Sharon on Tuesday to show restraint and give Abbas a chance to bring the militants under control.

Israel has demanded that, as a pre-

liminary step, the Palestinians deploy security forces in the areas in northern Gaza used to launch the rockets, Israeli officials said Tuesday.

On Monday, Abbas instructed the Palestinian security forces to try to prevent attacks against Israel and to investigate the attack at the border crossing.

Palestinian officials have declined to elaborate on how the orders would be translated into action. But Foreign Minister Nabil Shaath said the Palestinians are serious about maintaining quiet.

"The Palestinian people will be the best policemen," he said. "Once an agreement is reached, it will be enforced."

Israeli newspapers reported Tuesday that Abbas ordered hundreds of police to be deployed in northern Gaza to prevent rocket attacks. However, there was no apparent change in Palestinian

deployment Tuesday.

In an earlier show of defiance Tuesday, Gaza militants fired four mortar shells and a homemade rocket. The mortar shells were aimed at the Jewish settlement of Kfar Darom in central Gaza, causing no injuries or damage, settlers said. The army fired in response, critically wounding a 15-year-old Palestinian boy in the head, Palestinian doctors said.

Abbas, elected Jan. 9 to replace Yasser Arafat, faces a difficult task in Gaza.

He said he's optimistic about the talks in Gaza with Hamas, Islamic Jihad and the Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, a violent group with ties to his ruling Fatah movement.

Abbas said he has good relations with the militants, based on mutual trust, and noted that as prime minister in 2003, he negotiated a temporary truce that lasted for nearly two

months.

Abbas said Israel must help him. "It should stop all military attacks against the Palestinian people, stop incursions, the assassinations and the building of the wall (separation barrier), release prisoners and accept a mutual ceasefire," Abbas said.

Abbas also said he expects to visit Washington after he forms a new government. President Bush, who refused to meet with Arafat, has invited Abbas to the White House.

A Hamas spokesman, meanwhile, said the group would only consider halting attacks if Israel stops military operations.

"We do not accept discussing a one-sided truce while our Palestinian people are the target of bloody massacres, brutal terrorism and daily murders," said the spokesman, Mushir al-Masri.

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## STATE NEWS

**REDDING** — Four men were arrested on hate crime charges after allegedly vandalizing a display that symbolized the country's daily abortion rate.

The men are accused of knocking down nearly 3,000 white crosses erected by Redding churches and Christian organizations.

Police said a pager led to the

arrest of Michael Lane, 19; Clayton Heath, 20; Brian Fitzgerald, 20; and Aaron Krzywicki, 20. The four were booked on suspicion of felony vandalism and misdemeanor civil rights violations.

Damaging property to intimidate or interfere with civil rights based on religion is illegal, said police Sgt. Roger Moore.

• • •

**UPLAND** — A dive team found

the body of a 7-year-old boy Tuesday who fell into a rain-swollen creek over the holiday weekend, authorities said.

Search-and-rescue teams continued to search for the boy's 35-year-old mother, who was swept away Monday when she tried to rescue him.

Frank Zavala of El Monte was found about a quarter-mile downstream from where he was last seen Monday, said Robin Haynal, a spokeswoman with the San

Bernardino County sheriff's department.

The boy fell into San Antonio Creek while trying to wash his hands during a picnic at Mount Baldy. His mother, Sibilina Flores, jumped in after him and both were swept away by water moving as fast as 40 mph.

Another boy from Huntington Park drowned in the same creek after he was swept under by currents moving up to 25 mph, authorities said

—Associated Press

## OTHER NEWS

**SAN JOSE** — The city is hosting a convention this weekend of about 1,700 "furries" — people who love animals so much that they take on their identities and sometimes dress up like them.

Part costume party and part role play, Further Confusion, or FurCon, gives grown-ups a place to act out their inter-species fantasies.

The convention includes workshops on such things as puppetry, costume making, writing about mythical creatures and "furry anatomy."

"Just because it's weird, it's still perfectly normal to the people involved in it," said raccoon wannabe Lee Strom, 36, of San Leandro, one of the event's founders.

Prancing through the lobby of the Doubletree Hotel as a fox among goats, tigers and other animals, Katie Matthew, 20, said she likes the fun of dressing up and escaping into her made-up animal character, which she calls Shadow and has written about in stories.

• • •

**AMSTERDAM, Netherlands**

— A man in a Batman suit spent several hours on a rooftop balcony atop a courthouse in the Dutch city of Utrecht on Monday, protesting the treatment of fathers in divorce cases.

Police spokeswoman Wendy Alberse said the man, whose name was not released, struck a deal to surrender peacefully. Police offered him a ladder and he climbed through a window to safety, she said.

—Associated Press

## NATIONAL NEWS

**WASHINGTON** — An Iraqi-American businessman pleaded guilty Tuesday to charges that he received payments from Iraq to illegally act as its agent in the United States, including getting millions of dollars worth of oil from the United Nations' oil-for-food program.

Samir A. Vincent, a naturalized U.S. citizen from Annandale, Va., entered the guilty pleas in federal

court in New York to four criminal counts, including conspiring to act as an unregistered agent of a foreign government and tax violations, according to Attorney General John Ashcroft. Vincent faces up to 28 years in prison.

• • •

**UNITED NATIONS**

— Outgoing Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman said Tuesday that in her new job as head of the U.N. children's agency she will focus on promoting education and health rather

than on social issues such as reproductive health and sex education.

She was questioned on key youth-related issues after Secretary-General Kofi Annan introduced her at a news conference and said she would take over for Carol Bellamy as executive director of the United Nations Children's Fund on May 1 if confirmed by the UNICEF board.

• • •

**WASHINGTON** — Secretary of State nominee Condoleezza

Rice told senators on Tuesday that a U.S. exit strategy from Iraq depends on that country's ability to defend itself against terrorists after this month's elections. She vowed to work to ease ties with allies frayed by U.S. policy there.

"The world is coming together behind the idea that we have to succeed in Iraq," she asserted at a confirmation hearing on her nomination to replace Colin Powell in the top foreign policy post.

—Associated Press

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

**BAGHDAD, Iraq** — Iraq will seal its borders, extend a curfew and restrict movement to protect voters during the Jan. 30 election, officials announced Tuesday after the latest major insurgent attack — a suicide bombing that killed two people outside the offices of a leading Shiite political party.

President Bush spoke Tuesday morning with Iraqi interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, the latest in a

series of conversation between the two leaders on Iraq's efforts to ensure maximum participation in the election.

• • •

**BAGHDAD, Iraq** — A suicide bomber struck the Baghdad headquarters of Iraq's biggest Shiite political party Tuesday, killing three people, as the government announced plans to close borders and restrict movements to bolster security in the national election.

Three candidates were slain as insurgents intensified their cam-

paign to subvert the ballot. The Cabinet member responsible for internal security urged fellow Sunni Arabs to disregard threats by Sunni extremists and vote in the Jan. 30 election, in which Iraqis will choose a 275-member National Assembly and regional legislatures. Otherwise, the minister warned, the country will slide into civil war.

• • •

**GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip** — In the biggest test of his brief tenure, Palestinian leader

Mahmoud Abbas came to the Gaza Strip on Tuesday, hoping to persuade militants to halt attacks on Israel.

But in a show of defiance, a Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up on a settler road in Gaza, killing an Israeli security agent and wounding seven other Israelis.

The Islamic militant group Hamas claimed responsibility for the attack — the first suicide bombing against an Israeli target since Nov. 1.

—Associated Press



# UNDER FOUR? OR KICKED OUT THE DOOR?

80% of students haven't had trouble with authorities due to drinking. The average CP student drinks less than 4 in a sitting.





## NEWS

4 Wednesday, January 19, 2005

# Mexico presses U.S. for new immigration agreement



ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. Homeland Security secretary Tom Ridge, left, and Mexican Interior Secretary Santiago Creel shake hands at the end of a news conference Monday, Jan. 17, at the Calexico Port of Entry along the U.S. Mexico border.

Elliot Spagat  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CALEXICO — Mexico will continue to rally for an immigration agreement establishing a right for Mexicans to work temporarily in the United States, the country's interior secretary said after meeting with Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge.

The secretary, Santiago Creel, also denounced an Arizona ballot measure — approved by voters in November — that limits government services for illegal immigrants.

"It's incompatible with human rights and does a disservice to both countries, the United States as much as Mexico," Creel said Monday following the meeting in Calexico, a border city about 100 miles east of San Diego.

Ridge, who is departing his job Feb. 1, said an immigration agreement was a high priority for President Bush in his second term, but added that a temporary worker program would be an uphill battle in Congress without provisions for stricter enforcement of immigration laws.

He emphasized that the United States would reject any amnesty proposal for Mexicans who are living in the United States illegally or any plan that gives priority to temporary workers when they apply for permanent residency.

Ridge avoided criticizing the

Arizona ballot measure, saying that states have a right to deny state but not federal aid.

The measure requires proof of legal immigration status when obtaining certain government services and proof of citizenship when registering to vote.

Government workers who don't report illegal immigrants who try to get benefits could also face jail time and a fine.

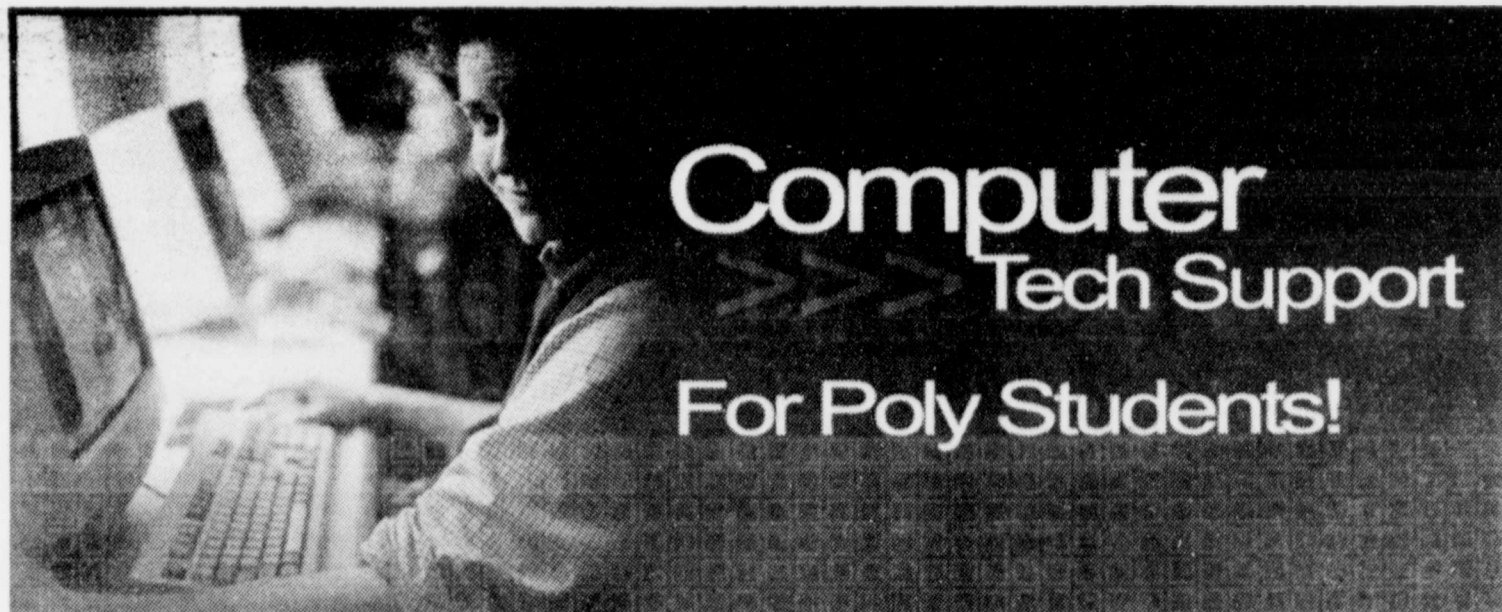
Ridge said other states were unlikely to follow Arizona's lead if the United States introduces a program for temporary workers.

"There will probably be far less inclination by any states to vote a similar way again ... because the people that will be here will be here legally and they will certainly be in a much better position to support themselves without relying on any public funding," Ridge said.

The meeting was billed as a progress report on a 2002 agreement aimed at beefing up border security without disrupting trade.

The two Cabinet secretaries also used the occasion to formally open a new lane for prescreened truckers to avoid long lines when entering the United States or Mexico.

Calexico is the sixth southern U.S. border crossing since September to introduce the fast track lane for truckers. The others are San Diego and the Texas cities of El Paso, Hidalgo, Laredo and Brownsville.



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## The Party Is Over.

It's simple: Mardi Gras weekend in SLO will be different this year. Violence and property damage will not be tolerated. Out-of-town visitors are not welcome. Gatherings on streets, sidewalks and parking lots near campus and downtown will not be allowed.

### Count on:

- Nearly 400 law enforcement officers on duty the weekend of February 4th
- DUI check points throughout San Luis Obispo
- Violation costs tripled citywide
- Jail time & big fines for lawbreaking
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Hours vary on holidays  
and quarter breaks



## In Slovakia, a new generation grows up largely ignorant about communism

**Andrea Dudikova**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BRATISLAVA, Slovakia — They confuse Stalin with Hitler, echo their parents' nostalgia for a supposedly "golden age" and think the worst part of the communist era was not being able to travel freely.

Fifteen years after communism collapsed across eastern Europe, some people worry about the generation born since then growing up largely ignorant of the hardships, repression and lack of basic rights and freedoms when the Marxists ran things.

The lack of knowledge may be especially acute in Slovakia, which took a five-year detour from the path to democracy after splitting off from the Czech Republic in 1993. Critics here blame parents, the education system and the absence of a spirited public debate about the recent past for the skewed picture many young people seem to have about it.

Young Slovaks like Marian Timm, 14, admit they don't know much about the system that held the former Czechoslovakia in an iron grip until Vaclav Havel — the playwright who would become president — galvanized the masses into a Velvet Revolution that ended decades of repressive rule in 1989.

Asked what he knows about communism, Marian first debates with a teenage buddy whether it was Adolf Hitler or someone else who was behind the regime.

Eventually, they agree it wasn't Hitler, but their mental picture is still murky. Marian says his parents describe their earlier lives as a time ruled by "golden communists" who offered "lots of jobs and discipline."

"People dressed in a funny way then, but things were cheaper," he says. "We keep hearing that rolls were cheap, but also that it was not good, as people could not travel just anywhere."

Even older teens, born before the regime fell, appear clueless about communism.

"I don't understand what it was about," says Linda Recna, a 19-year-old university student. "My mind is full of chaos when it comes to this, because it's something that we haven't lived through."

Older people lament the lack of knowledge. They lived planned, predetermined lives in those days. And while the system did offer jobs and apartments for all, it also had no room for individualism, personal growth or religious beliefs, they say.

Some critics feel Slovakia's ability to address the past was retarded by its side trip into authoritarian rule under

Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar. His regime was marked by cronyism and little commitment to democracy, isolating the young country from the West.

Meciar's loss of power in 1998 has been followed by rapid political and economic reforms that have brought Slovakia back into the democratic mainstream. Last spring, it joined NATO and the European Union.

But the sheer variety and speed of changes over the past 15 years — the sudden availability of freedom of choice, free elections, free travel, con-

*The sheer variety and speed of changes over the past 15 years — the sudden availability of freedom of choice, free elections, free travel, consumer goods — have left many youngsters with a warped view of the preceding era.*

sumer goods — have left many youngsters with a warped view of the preceding era.

They hear little about it at school, and many of the parents of the news generation aren't eager to discuss the communist years in detail.

While history textbooks in schools spell out the communist era accurately and clearly, teachers say they have little time to cover the material.

"It's dealt with very briefly ... we never go too deeply into these themes," says Anna Gregorova, a history teacher at a primary school in Levice in southern Slovakia.

Ida Andrascikova, who teaches at a high school in the central town of Revuca, says her students — who live in an area saddled with high unemployment — tend to look at things from the perspective of their parents, some of whom are nostalgic for the old days.

"When I teach them about communism, some nod in agreement, but some just smirk," she says.

Martin Simecka, editor in chief of the national newspaper and the son of an intellectu-

*"I don't understand what it was about. My mind is full of chaos when it comes to this, because we haven't lived through this."*

— LINDA RECNA  
Slovakian university student

al who was imprisoned as a dissident under communism, thinks the worry about youths is not overblown but he feels it's simply too early for people to clearly see and understand the past.

"I think that in 10 years this generation of 15- to 20-year-olds will start to ask their parents: 'How could you have lived in something like that?'" Simecka says.

The nation's collective consciousness will awaken when the young generation starts asking "whether those few (cheap) rolls were worth freedom," he adds.

Emil Dohnanec, who was jailed by the communists and served five years in the uranium mines in the 1950s for allegedly conspiring against the regime, also counts himself among the optimists, but is still troubled by young people's lack of knowledge.

The nostalgic feeling that communism was not so bad "is absolutely a primitive opinion," Dohnanec said.

## Cal Poly AG Showcase

**When: Jan. 20**

**Where: Chumash Auditorium**

**Time: 9am to 3pm**

### Companies Attending:

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Crown Packing	Dow Agro Sciences	Driscoll's Strawberry Assoc.
Adams Grain Company	Agro Engineering Inc.	Apio, Inc.
California Milk Advisory Board	California State Fair	
Central California Consartion- Forest Service	Crystal Springs Landscape	
Earthbound Farm	Enterprise Rent-A-Car	Fertizona
Gills Onions	Harris Ranch Beef Company	Platinum Performance, Inc.
Sensient Dehydrated Flavors Company	Simplot Gowers Solutions	
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## COMMENTARY

# The French (Kicks) are coming soon!

Sunday night, San Luis Obispo will get a little more continental when the French Kicks tap SLO Brew. The prominent, young NYC band is currently touring in support of its album, "The Trial of the Century." They are performing Sunday with Dios Malos, Red Lights and Service Group, boasting a tight, post-punk melodicism and some seriously intriguing lyrics. They've been hailed by Mojo, Maxim and Time Out New York for their "perfect pop restraint" and "seduction." Even more importantly, they care about their fans. Their Web site, [www.frenchkicks.com](http://www.frenchkicks.com), hosts a feature called "W.W.F.K.D.?" which features the wittiest, most acerbic commentary ever to arise from a rock band's advice column of questionable religious allusion (high praise, surely).

The Art Beat interviewed lead singer/drummer/keyboardist Nick Stumpf late last year. He proved to be an articulate and friendly gent who spoke with Capitol Hill poise and, at one point, pulled the impressive coup of turning the tables and interviewing himself. Yep, the guy could really go places. But, President Stumpf, you might want to declare your American allegiance now by renaming to the Freedom Kicks, perhaps?

**Art Beat: So what are you listening to? What bands can you recommend?**

Nick Stumpf: The Juggers are great. They're an unsung, great band. There are some bands we've done tours with I really like — Ambulance is one. The Unicorns I really like, too.

**AB: What music changed your life and made you want to be a musician?**

NS: Well, I studied classical piano as a kid and I never really took to it. I was never in love with it because I didn't listen to the music. When someone taught me to play songs I was actually listening to, I thought that was one of the most exciting things, and not just to do that, but to write your own and have it affect you.

**AB: I was looking on MTV.com and I saw your band has a bio online ...**

NS: We do?

**AB: Yeah, you do! So ...**

NS: What do I think of MTV?

**AB: Yeah, what do you think of MTV and the music it normally plays?**

NS: Wait, do they play music? I sorta thought they play, like, reality shows. MTV2 still plays stuff. There's a show called "Subterranean" that plays new obscure videos. (Thoughtful pause). Actually, I think we're supposed to host it in a couple of weeks.

**AB: Would you ever want to be on mainstream MTV someday?**

NS: Yeah, for us, it's the more the merrier. I think what you're maybe getting at is if I would consider that to be selling out, and I don't. I think the only way to sell out is by, like, changing the way you write, changing the music itself. Like, if you change the way you dress to improve the mainstream, then that's selling out. But at long as you're good at what you do, and it makes sense to you, and feels right to you ... the more the merrier.

**AB: The New York City music scene exploded a few years ago with the Strokes, and all of a sudden everyone was looking to New York for music. How did you feel about that, and how did it compare to the scene today?**

NS: Well, there's several angles to that. I think that whole craze was partially a creation of lackluster journalism — it was an easy story, about this "sound," and I would defy anyone to define that "sound." Like for awhile, everyone was being compared to television. With things like that, it forces everyone involved to be pushed through a very narrow filter and talk about it all the time. And I'm sure no one wants to do that, they want to be taken for what they're specifically doing. But then, there was some pretty cool music that came out of here. I think the reason for it was that there's like a million kids here, more art kids than anywhere else in the country, probably. So for a lot of bands to happen here, it makes sense.

**AB: What's been your most rock-star moment?**

NS: Oh man, I don't know. We're sort of light on those. I dunno, I got into jumping into the crowd a lot during the tour we did with Hot Hot Heat, but that was because there were enough people there and I was drunk enough that it seemed like a good idea. In general, we're a little bit bookish about that stuff ... I guess we're musicians first, and still kind of nerdy about it.

**AB: Why do you think some rock bands last longer than others? Is it musicianship, the way they package themselves?**

NS: I think there's always a little bit of both. It's really songs, though — they keep you around. It's amazing how powerful (packaging) is and



the  
**ART**  
beat

film, art, music and everything in between

## A hearty slice of indie-rock



COURTESY PHOTOS

Music lovers are in for a treat this weekend as indie-favorites, French Kicks and Dios Malos make their San Luis Obispo debut Sunday night at SLO Brew. The two Startime Records labelmates are currently on a West Coast tour that will take them from Seattle to San Diego. Advance tickets are available for \$10 at Boo Boo Records or \$12 at the door. Also on the bill are the Red Lights and Service Group. Doors open at 7:30 p.m.

## Stay safe during Mardi Gras

**Don't risk:**

**Personal injury**

**Arrest**

**Triple fines**

**Possible expulsion from Cal Poly**

**Loss of future jobs**

### > Avoid large crowds

They can become dangerous without warning, especially if alcohol is involved.

### > Discourage visitors

Last year, one half of those arrested during Mardi Gras were from out of town.

### > Campus parking will be closed

to visitors the weekend of Feb. 4-6, except for official Cal Poly event ticketholders.

### > Nearly 400 law enforcement officers

will strictly enforce the law regarding public behavior during Mardi Gras weekend.

### > Check out [www.MardiGrasSLO.com](http://www.MardiGrasSLO.com)

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**Tony Aeilts, Chief**  
**Cal Poly University Police**





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## Genre-bending Oakland hip-hop at SLO Brew



COURTESY PHOTO

Tonight at SLO Brew, Public Radio KCBC, KCPR and Basement Records are co-sponsoring a performance by five-piece, Oakland-based band Crown City Rockers. The band captures aspects of vintage Stevie Wonder's R&B to organic hip-hop stylings. Doors open at 8:30 p.m. and tickets are \$12.

## Download of the day



Annie  
"My Heartbeat"

Not currently available in the United States, Annie is the latest Norwegian musical gem following Ryoskopp and The Concretes. On "My Heartbeat," her voice seamlessly blends with the organic, electronic beat to create a song so Scandinavian you could hunt whales with it.

## Art Beat

continued from page 6

how people respond to it, but that's more important in the beginning for bands, so people can digest something up front. In long term, it's about the songs and not doing the same thing over and over, wanting to take chances, change what you're doing so when people buy your next record, they know there will be some surprises on it.

**AB: Any tips for young bands? Pitfalls to avoid?**

**NS:** The thing to do is become the biggest band in your hometown first, and then a lot of other things will follow from that.

**AB: Even if your hometown is New York?**

**NS:** Yeah, even then. Find out what's the best venue in town, and sell it out. Make sure that you can step out in front of people and feel that if they don't like it, they're stupid. If you can believe that, you'll probably be OK.

**AB: What's the best question you've gotten for "What Would French Kicks Do?"**

**NS:** I was doing an interview once and this guy told me some incredibly personal and embarrassing story in the middle of it, something about how he'd had an office party and, like, screwed his best friend's girlfriend, and he asked what he should do! I didn't know! I was like, "You ... shouldn't have done it?" It's surprising how personal some people get.

**AB: How did the band name come about?**

**NS:** It was a late-night session — we gave ourselves an ultimatum and wouldn't leave without a name. Everyone was throwing names out, and we sort of chorled at that one. Hey, we hated it the least. Now we've grown to sort of like it.

**AB: What do you think a French Kick would feel like?**

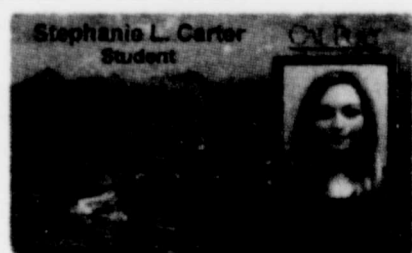
**NS:** (laughs) I don't know. I don't think I want to imagine it.

Stacey Anderson is a journalism and music junior, KCPR DJ and expert Chinese-Norwegian kicker. Catch her Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon on 91.3 FM or e-mail her at [standers@calpoly.edu](mailto:standers@calpoly.edu).



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## COMMENTARY

# One fish, two fish ... red fish, blue fish

We all know the stereotypes about people in "blue states" and "red states." People in the "blue states" are often referred to as "liberal elites," "Birkenstock liberals" or my personal favorite, "latte liberals." These individuals can usually be found roaming the local Border's bookstore with a \$5 cup of coffee and browsing the works of Kierkegaard, Nietzsche and Wittgenstein.

As for people in the "red states" we think of "NASCAR dads," "Security moms," "Christian fundamentalists" and ... "Christian fundamentalists." If you're lucky, you can usually find these individuals on TV saying, "Feminism encourages women to leave their husbands, kill their children, practice witchcraft, destroy capitalism and become lesbians" (actual quote from Pat Robertson).

What scares me about these stereotypes is how true they've become lately, especially for the "red states." During the 2004 Senate race in Oklahoma, Republican candidate Tom Coburn said, "lesbianism is so rampant in some of the schools in Oklahoma that they'll only let one girl go to the bathroom." Lesbians in Oklahoma? That's like a Jew eating pork chops at a Passover Seder! Whatever the case, Oklahoma voters still chose Coburn as their new senator. So maybe "rampant lesbianism" is a real dilemma in Oklahoma schools? If it's true, I know where I'm going on my next road trip. Now if you feel like making fun of Oklahomans, you better be careful. Oklahoma voters look like Richard Simmons compared to the voters in

Alabama. While Oklahomans may have been a little worried about "lesbianism," our good friends in Alabama voted against an amendment which would have removed segregationist language from their state constitution. Don't worry, there is good news. The amendment was only shut down by 1,850 votes or 0.13 percent.

Although segregation is outlawed in Alabama, keeping it on the "books" is a must, and I sincerely hope they enjoyed their day off for Martin Luther King Jr.

If you thought Oklahoma and Alabama were weird, a school district in Georgia required their biology textbooks to have a sticker on the cover that read, "This textbook contains material on evolution. Evolution is a theory, not a fact, regarding the origin of living things. This material should be approached with an open mind, studied carefully and critically considered."

Supporters of the stickers believed this was a show of "tolerance." Fortunately, last week, a federal judge decided the stickers were unconstitutional and ordered their removal.

Finally, abstinence-only education programs recently came under fire for giving out completely false information. A report conducted by Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., found abstinence-only education programs giving out false information such as, "half of all gay male teens are HIV positive." These programs also taught how condoms were ineffective and how HIV can be transmitted through sweat and tears. Sen. Bill Frist, R-Tenn., who is a medical doctor, wouldn't even refute these claims completely when he was interviewed by George Stephanopoulos.

With all these issues, I've been wondering what century we live in? There is nothing wrong with identifying with liberal or conservative values, but facts and evidence must always come before ideology. For people in "red states," condoms can prevent the spread of STDs, humans more than likely evolved from monkeys and segregation is something to be ashamed of.

But what do I know? I'm just a "latte liberal" living in a "blue state."

*Josh Kob is a political science senior and Mustang Daily columnist.*

## COMING TOMORROW

Campus Troubleshooter by Mustang Daily columnist Carrie McGourty

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Tactics to shut down Mardi Gras are a joke

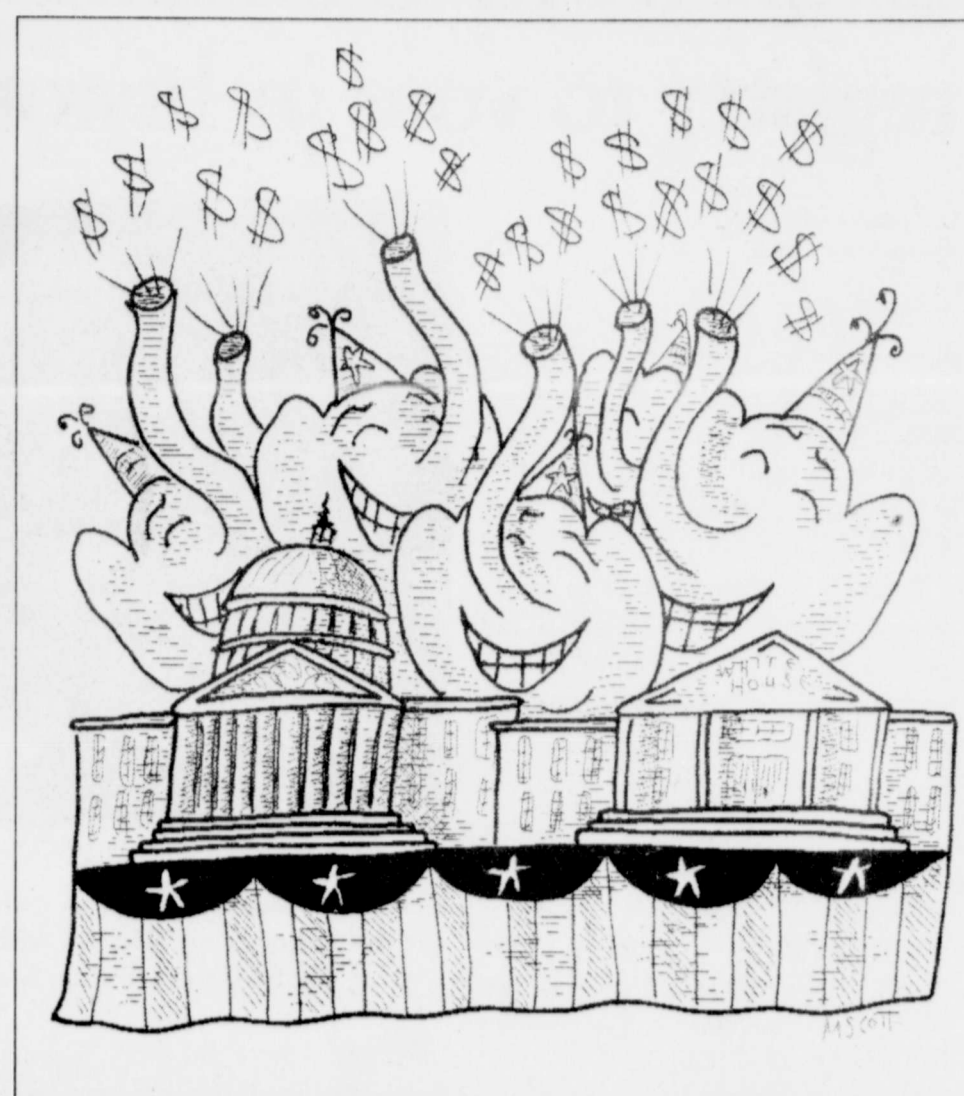
Neither I nor my close friends partied on Mardi Gras; however, that does not change my view that the city's tactics toward shutting down the festivities are a joke, at best.

The Web site devoted to this cause is pure, demonizing propaganda. In my opinion, the city should do the following to "fix" Mardi Gras: reduce police presence, ignore noisy parties, help drunks get home safely and allow people to make choices.

This seems counter-intuitive to stopping the problem, but it allows people to learn what works through experience, not propaganda (after all, isn't our motto learn by doing?).

If someone wants to drink themselves to death, fine; should enough do it, we'll either weed out the stupid or learn to watch out for one other. If a woman wants to expose herself to the world, that's her choice; it can only come back to haunt her later. If your neighbors are too loud while enjoying themselves, then get yourself some nice isolating headphones (Sennheiser HD280Pros are a good start).

Truth be told: random DUI stops won't stop drivers from avoiding them. More police in riot gear escalates problems. And kicking drunk people out of houses, into the streets causes the exact opposite of what is intended. Don't attempt to stop the problem by propaganda tactics, making demonic the act of a good party. Instead, focus Mardi Gras toward community celebration, in



MARGARET SCOTT NEWSART

whatever form that happens to take.

**Tim Herman**  
Computer engineering junior

### Battle of Christmas is twist on the English language

Merry Christmas, happy holidays? This battle is mentioned every year,

but with the optimism of Christians as of late ... even the Los Angeles Times has taken notice to the escalating concern.

I wish I had a copy so I could

quote it properly when it spoke words like these: "God played a major part in America's history; to pander your words around this fact is inappropriate."

Yes, like the time he walked across the oceans to sink Britain's ships, who could forget? Or that time he touched the earth with fury

and Hiroshima vaporized. If you want to construct a sound argument, try to refrain from claiming acts of men as acts of God.

This current battle reminded me of another ancient war of words; only it was Christianity offsetting the "pagan" ways and ancient gods. Back when Christmas was a winter festival celebrating different ideas but had similar results (eating, being merry, etc.)

Our language has become so twisted by time that there is barely a mention of any Greek gods in any holiday. Look how we deny our own heritage, our history, not one word to remember the true origins of these holidays (Khrstos "anointed" maze "festival"). Christians came along, adapting things as their own; words changed, practices shifted. ... Out with the old, in with the new, the theme of all living things. Just remember who's shoes you'll be filling in this modern day version.

Merry holidays, happy Christmas? What sane man gives a shit!

**Morgan Elam**  
General engineering senior

## MUSTANG DAILY CORRECTIONS

The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your readership and are thankful for your careful reading. Please send your correction suggestions to editor@mustangdaily.net.

## LETTER POLICY

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**By e-mail:**  
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Letters to the Editor  
Building 26, Room 226  
Cal Poly, SLO, CA 93407

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# Iraqis from California to London register to vote in historic elections

Gillian Flaccus  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

IRVINE — Enduring long drives, tight security and sometimes disorganized polling stations, thousands of Iraqi expatriates have begun registering to vote in their homeland's first independent election in nearly 50 years.

Potential voters drove from as far away as Phoenix on Monday to add their names to the list of some 35,000 Iraqi immigrants expected to register at the polling station set up at a decommissioned Marine base in Orange County.

Many shared tales of their escapes from Saddam Hussein's rule and hopes for the future of the country, saying any difficulties of the voting process paled in comparison to the troubles that have gripped Iraq.

"I don't mind even going to Alaska to vote because I left Iraq as a high school teacher and there was oppression," said Nick Kenaya, 60, of San Diego.

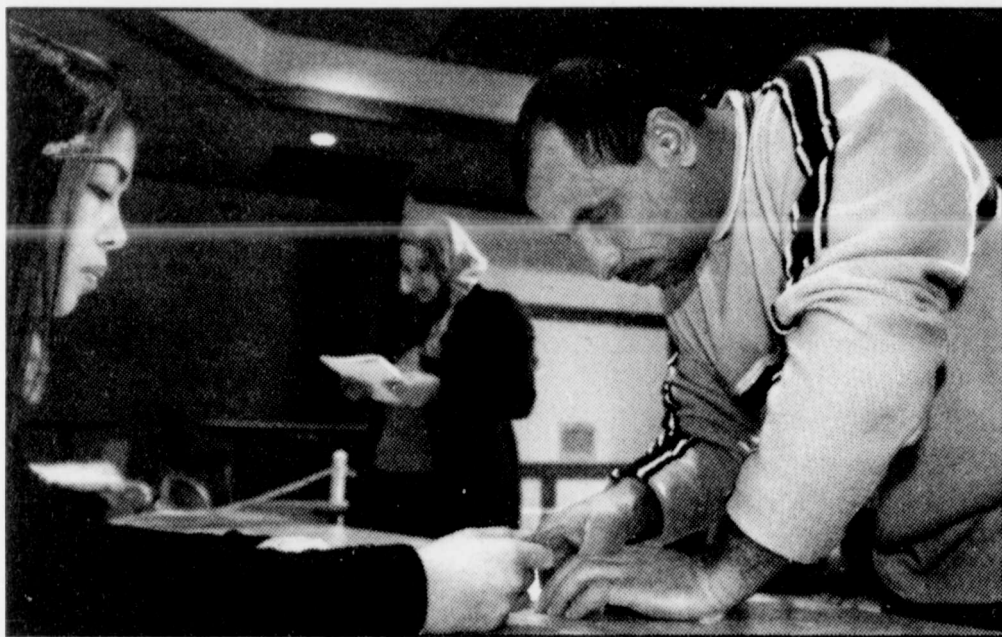
"For these people, it makes a difference to vote. ... This is the first time in three decades that people have that freedom," he said.

Cities in Michigan, Tennessee, Maryland and Illinois have also opened registration sites for a seven-day period ending Jan. 23.

About 240,000 people are eligible to vote in the Jan. 30 election in the United States, according to Roger Bryant of the International Center for Migration, which is in charge of the overseas voting for the Iraqi government.

Eligible voters can be American citizens, but must be 18 or older, have been born in Iraq, hold citizenship or prove that their father was Iraqi.

Preparations for the election around the world mirrored those in



Amer Alshemari, right, who drove in from Phoenix, registers to vote for the upcoming Iraqi election with the help of Alleya Eid, at El Toro Marine Air Station in Irvine, Monday, Jan. 17.

Iraq itself, where the top U.S. general there predicted violence during the national election but pledged Monday to do "everything in our power" to ensure safety of voters.

The U.S. polling stations were monitored by armed guards and metal detectors. In Nashville, those seeking to register could not go directly to the two election sites, but had to gather at a hastily arranged location to board a bus.

Still, parents brought along their children to share the experience, and some said they felt overwhelmed at the opportunity to vote for Iraq's leaders.

"I can't explain how I'm feeling right now," said 29-year-old gas station manager Shakier Alkadhum, holding a registration card in the town of Southgate, Mich. "My whole life, I hope this day would come. I want to cry now."

At a Maryland polling station, Nazar Mohammadali, 22, of Richmond, Va., said his family was hoping their votes would reduce con-

tinuing violence in Iraq.

"We are happy that Saddam is gone; we had hoped the U.S. government had better plans for safety and security," he said. "Hopefully, the election may end that."

Some complained about too much security at the polling station in Nashville, where 3-foot concrete barriers forced vehicles to zig-zag as if entering a checkpoint. An armed officer checked credentials.

"Everybody saw the barriers coming in here. Some people are saying, 'We're not in Fallujah,'" said Ahmed Mossa, a volunteer at the polling place.

In Irvine, the few Iraqis that made it to the polling site said they had spent hours searching for an address that doesn't exist.

Eligible Iraqis abroad — estimated to number 1.2 million — can vote in Britain, Australia, Sweden, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Iran, Jordan, the Netherlands, Syria, Turkey, United Arab Emirates and the United States.

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## SPORTS

Wednesday, January 19, 2005 11

## Notes

continued from page 12

the game, the week's activities leading up to the game are typically more important for a player's shot at the pros.

The Hornet's Amey impressed in both the practices and the game.

Coming from Sac State, Amey isn't use to the national exposure the other players have become accus-

tomed to over the years. But Amey put his nerves aside and went to work.

"I heard a lot of scouts don't even come to the game," Amey said. "They watch your every move in practice."

Amey was no slouch during the game either, reeling in two catches for 44 yards, and a score.

### The true meaning of the game

The 80th Annual East-West

Shrine Game provided more than a chance for players to simply show off their skills.

The true meaning of the game is to raise money and draw attention to the Shriners Hospitals. Since 1925, more than \$15 million has been contributed.

"Of course, the best day is going to visit the kids. It's a blessed experience. And to know the proceeds go to the Shriner's hospitals," Amey said.

## The New York Times Crossword

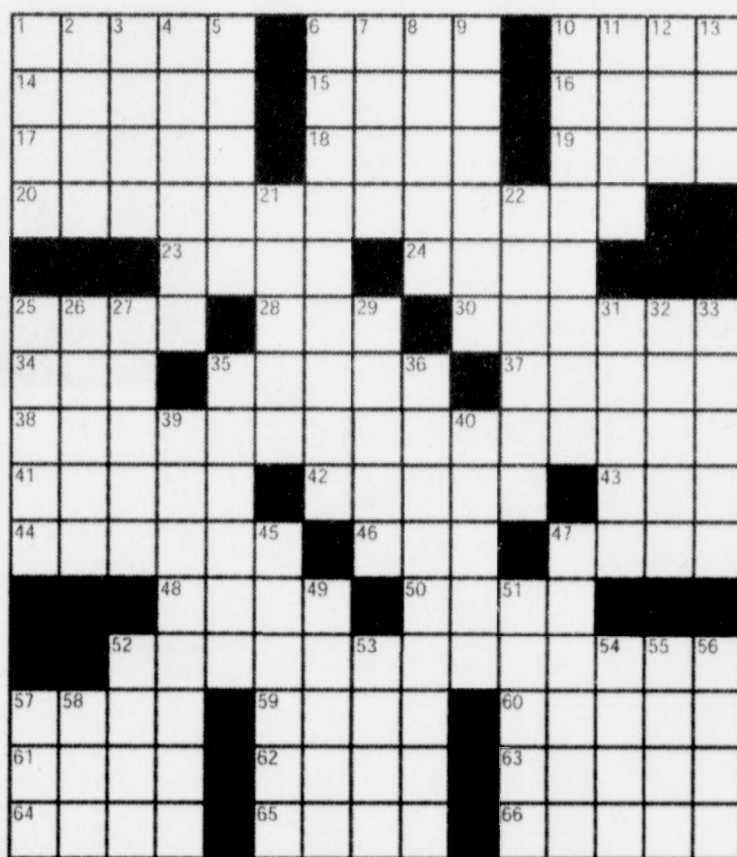
Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1208

- ACROSS**
- Touches up
  - Sound of relief
  - High-five, e.g.
  - Place to lounge
  - Plot part
  - Hotel feature
  - "That's all \_\_\_\_!"
  - Four Freedoms subject
  - Spot
  - Rehearsed for a concert?
  - "What \_\_\_\_ now?"
  - Hard to comprehend
  - Org.
  - Poe's Arthur Gordon \_\_\_\_
  - The scarlet letter, e.g.
  - Shooting marble
  - Like most urban land
  - Canadian physician Sir William \_\_\_\_
  - Performed in a concert?
  - Follow \_\_\_\_ (sleuth)
  - "Soap" family
  - Uris hero
  - Arcade game
  - F.I.C.A. funds it
  - Eye problem
  - Commercial name suffix
  - Jazz group, often
  - Listened to a concert?
  - Bell curve figure
  - Pre-euro money
  - Therapeutic treatment, maybe
  - Jump over
  - Sainted fifth-century pope
  - Very cold
  - Put under?
  - Brewski
  - Elysian spots

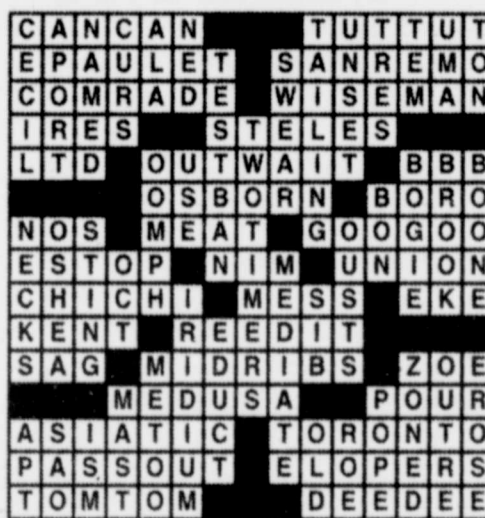
### DOWN

- Bigger than big
- Linda of soaps
- Doohickey
- Men's accessory
- Drink mixes
- Medicaid, for one
- Clinched
- K
- Medal winners
- Like some grins
- Maiden
- Saint Moritz sight
- Work at
- Wisconsin college
- Rockies range
- Taking one's cuts
- French explorer La \_\_\_\_
- Like dessert wines
- Flat spots
- Be a bad winner



Puzzle by Norm Guggenbiller

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



- \_\_\_\_-andrew (buffoon)
- "Here \_\_\_\_" (arrival words)
- Walked on
- Exclusive
- Golfer with an army
- Seems suspicious
- Poker player's declaration
- Signs in the sky
- Went bad
- Scoundrels
- Tends to details, figuratively
- Parting word
- Public relations concern
- F.B.I. target, with "the"
- It may be extended
- "Eh"
- Grounded Aussie

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## HELP WANTED

### Camp Wayne for Girls

Children's sleep-away camp, Northeastern Pennsylvania (6/18-8/14/05). If you love children and want a caring, fun environment we need Directors and Instructors for: Tennis, , Swimming (W.S.I. preferred), Golf, Gymnastics, Cheerleading, Drama, Camping/Nature, High & Low Ropes, Team Sports, Waterskiing, Sailing, Painting/Drawing, Ceramics, Silkscreen, Printmaking, Batik, Jewelry, Calligraphy, Photography, Sculpture, Guitar, Aerobics, Self-Defense, Video, Piano. Other staff: Administrative/Driver (21+), Nurses (RN's and Nursing Students), Bookkeeper, Mother's Helper. On Campus Interviews February 20th. Call 1-800-279-3019 or apply online at www.campwaynegirls.com

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Math Tutor

3rd year engineer student offering math tutoring for any age in SLO. Call Kyle 831-345-3877

Rock band looking for singer. Contact Alex at 805-720-5761

### QUOTE OF THE DAY

One of my movies was called "True Lies." It's what the Democrats should have called their convention.  
- Arnold Schwarzenegger

## BOOKS FOR SALE

Physics 131-133 book and statistics for Bus and Econ major + solution manual  
805-402-8303 Will

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FOUND  
Young, friendly female pit bull. To adopt call 239-2247

**Place your classified now! Sell your books, make an announcement, whatever! Reach the entire campus and downtown! Call Christi at 756-1143 or submit one online at www.mustangdaily.net**



## THE ATHLETE'S TURN

This week's spotlight on ...



Wrestling's Ryan Halsey

Nicole Stivers  
MUSTANG DAILY

Wrestler Ryan Halsey won't be content with a remarkable college career. He's already got his eyes on the Summer Olympics in 2008. The Mustang Daily got a chance to sit down with the business junior and talk about his personal goals, how he balances school with wrestling and the team's relationship with Ultimate Fighter Chuck Liddell.

**Q.** — What got you interested in wrestling?

**A.** — My dad wrestled and he got me involved in a bunch of sports when I was younger. Wrestling was the one I stuck with. It's the one I succeeded in and enjoyed the most.

**Q.** — What would you like to work on as an individual?

**A.** — With both wrestling and academics, I think there is always room for improvement. It's hard when you're practicing twice a day to keep your academics up. Time management is a big thing. On the wrestling mat, I'm trying to make all the improvements I can to be ready by the end of the season for nationals. I'm just working hard, getting in shape and putting my best effort out. I think if I do all those things it'll come together at the right time.

**Q.** — When you're on the mat, are you able to stop thinking about classes or when you're in class are you able to stop thinking about wrestling?

**A.** — I think it's easier to stop thinking about school. When I'm stressed out over school and go and have a really good wrestling practice I think it takes a little bit of the stress off me. It's hard with all the traveling. You've got to bring your studies on the road. This whole week I've been trying to catch up. It's harder when you're in school not to think about wrestling.

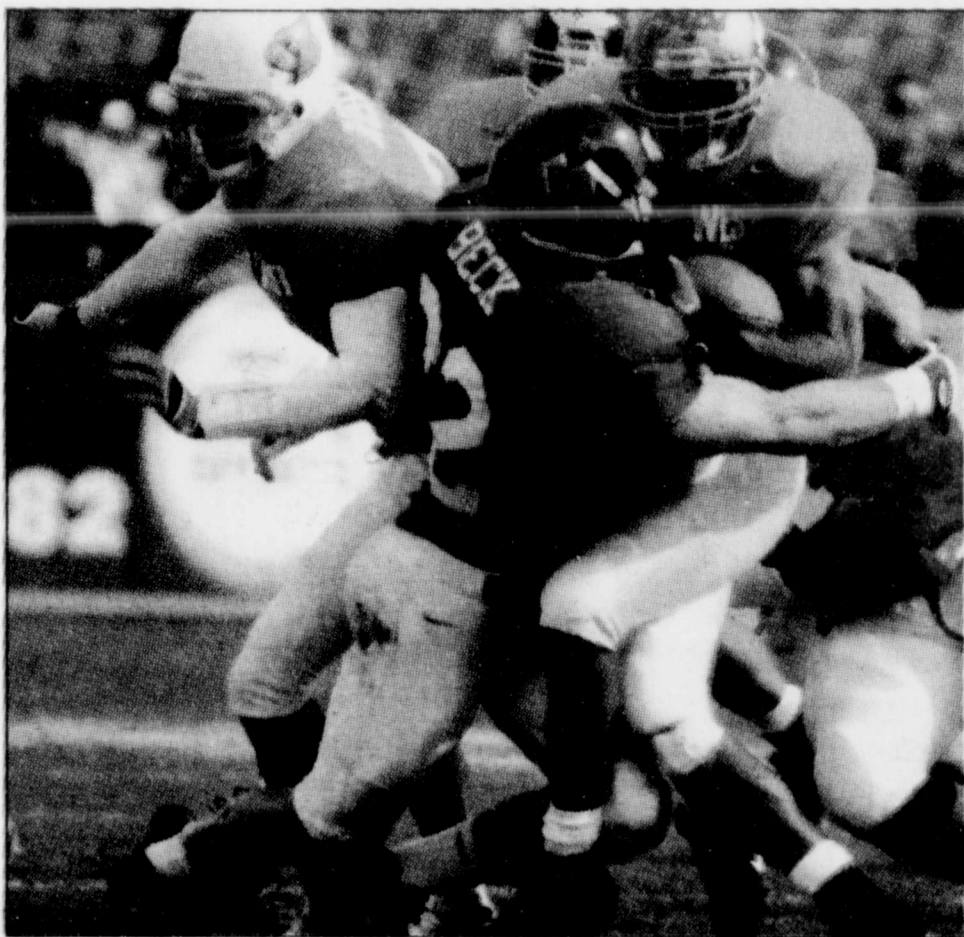
**Q.** — What's the relationship between Ultimate Fighter Chuck Liddell and Cal Poly wrestling?

**A.** — Chuck is a big supporter of Cal Poly wrestling. He wrestled for Cal Poly back in the late 1980s and he still comes in when he's training for fights. He works out and wrestles with the team to get himself in shape. He's also a booster and he's a good guy to have as an alumnus. He's helping out himself and some guys on the team.

**Q.** — What do you plan on doing after you graduate?

**A.** — I'm thinking about trying to go for the 2008 Olympics. If it looks like I've got a good shot at making the Olympics, then I'd dedicate a few years to that. If that doesn't work out then I'll probably go into the work force and maybe do some high school coaching or helping out a kid's program.

# Beck shines in the Shrine



COURTESY PHOTO

Jordan Beck finished with six tackles to co-lead the West on Saturday.

Dan Watson  
MUSTANG DAILY

**SAN FRANCISCO** — In the highest-scoring East-West Shrine Game since 1979, it was two well-acquainted pairs that provided offensive fireworks in a 45-27 East win over the West at SBC Park.

Quarterback Stefan LeFors found his Louisville teammate J.R. Russell twice on two broken plays for touchdowns as the East paraded all over the West in a 21-0 third quarter. The third quarter became part of a larger East butchering, a 38-0 run.

The game encored a week of workouts as hundreds of scouts, coaches and media personnel scoured the events looking for talent. On Saturday, the top seniors in the nation showcased their skills before an ESPN audience and 25,518 fans. LeFors and Purdue quarterback Kyle Orton also hooked up with wide receiver Taylor Stubblefield, who finished with 145 yards and two scores.

Special rules encase the game to address the lack of preparation both sides have before the game. Neither side is allowed to move in motion, blitz or rush the quarterback. These rules, primarily defensive, can put a damper on some of the play-making abilities of defensive stars, such as Jordan Beck.

Nevertheless, Beck still put an asterisk in the myth that top Division I-AA talent cannot compete with the higher talent. Sac State wide receiver Fred Amey did his part.

"It's big-time players from the small-time schools," Amey said. "We were representing for Division I-AA and Div. II and showing we can play with anyone in the nation."

Both Beck and Amey's performances were part of numerous inspiring stories.

### Running free

It's a challenge playing behind one of the top players in the country.

Running back Brandon Jacobs was playing behind two last year when he was third on the Auburn depth chart behind both Carnell "Cadillac" Williams and Ronnie Brown.

"Being at Auburn, I loved my experience and the players," Jacobs said. "I didn't feel bad being behind Carnell and Ronnie. I stole a few things from Ronnie."

This year, Jacobs transferred to Southern Illinois, a team Cal Poly consistently viewed atop the Division I-AA standings. Jacobs' stellar play helped lead Southern Illinois to a No. 1 national ranking for the entire season.

### A Long time coming

A year ago, quarterback Dustin Long was fighting for a chance just to get a few snaps in at Texas A&M. This year, Long transferred to a Division I-AA school, Sam Houston State, and turned around a program that went 2-9 the previous year.

This year, the team went 9-2 and won its conference, one of the biggest turnarounds in all of football.

Saturday, Long threw for 129 yards and a score.

### Amey improves his stock

Though many look forward to

see Notes, page 11

Graham Womack  
MUSTANG DAILY

**SAN FRANCISCO** — Following the conclusion of the East-West Shrine Game, Cal Poly football player Jordan Beck stood in front of his locker unable to conceal much, including his satisfaction.

Fresh from the shower, the first Mustang to play in the game since 1954 handled a group of reporters with confidence, composure and a slight, though near-continual smile. He had many reasons to celebrate. Although Beck's West squad lost 45-27, he co-lead it in tackles with six, third-most among all players.

With just more than three months remaining before the NFL Draft, the senior linebacker capped his stellar collegiate

career in front of a bevy of professional scouts, media from across California and beyond, and a

crowd of 25,518, including family and several Cal Poly teammates, at SBC Park in San Francisco.

While his performance didn't win any post-game honors, it wasn't bad for a guy who came off the bench, spent the preceding week of practice working at times with the offensive scout team and arrived the previous Friday unsure of what to expect.

"It was definitely a great experience," Beck said. "The whole week was a great experience. I had a good time, I got to meet a lot of great guys. Unfortunately we lost. Losing's no fun ever, but it was good times. It's going to be fun, hopefully, to see these guys at the next level, Lord willing, we'll be able to go on and continue these relationships."

Among 98 listed players, including 10 other Division I-AA standouts, Beck said he felt like he belonged. He certainly shined at times during the game, making the first tackle, corralling Notre Dame back Ryan Grant on the opening kickoff return. He also got a tackle on his first non-special teams play late in the first quarter.

His stat totals weren't unusually high for him. Beck had a Mustang-

record 449 tackles in his career and was named the top defensive player in Div. I-AA for 2004, receiving the Buck Buchanan Award after a 135-tackle senior season. His performance Saturday didn't put him on the map either—the former walk-on has been there for sometime.

"He's on everybody's radar," Kansas City Chiefs' scout Bruce Lemmerman said before the game.

However, Beck entered the week perhaps as an unknown to many teammates. Unlike Beck, most Shrine invitees reunited with a friend or two. Beck's nerves subsided as the week progressed, said fellow Mustang linebacker Kyle Shotwell, who talked with his roommate via cell phone every night.

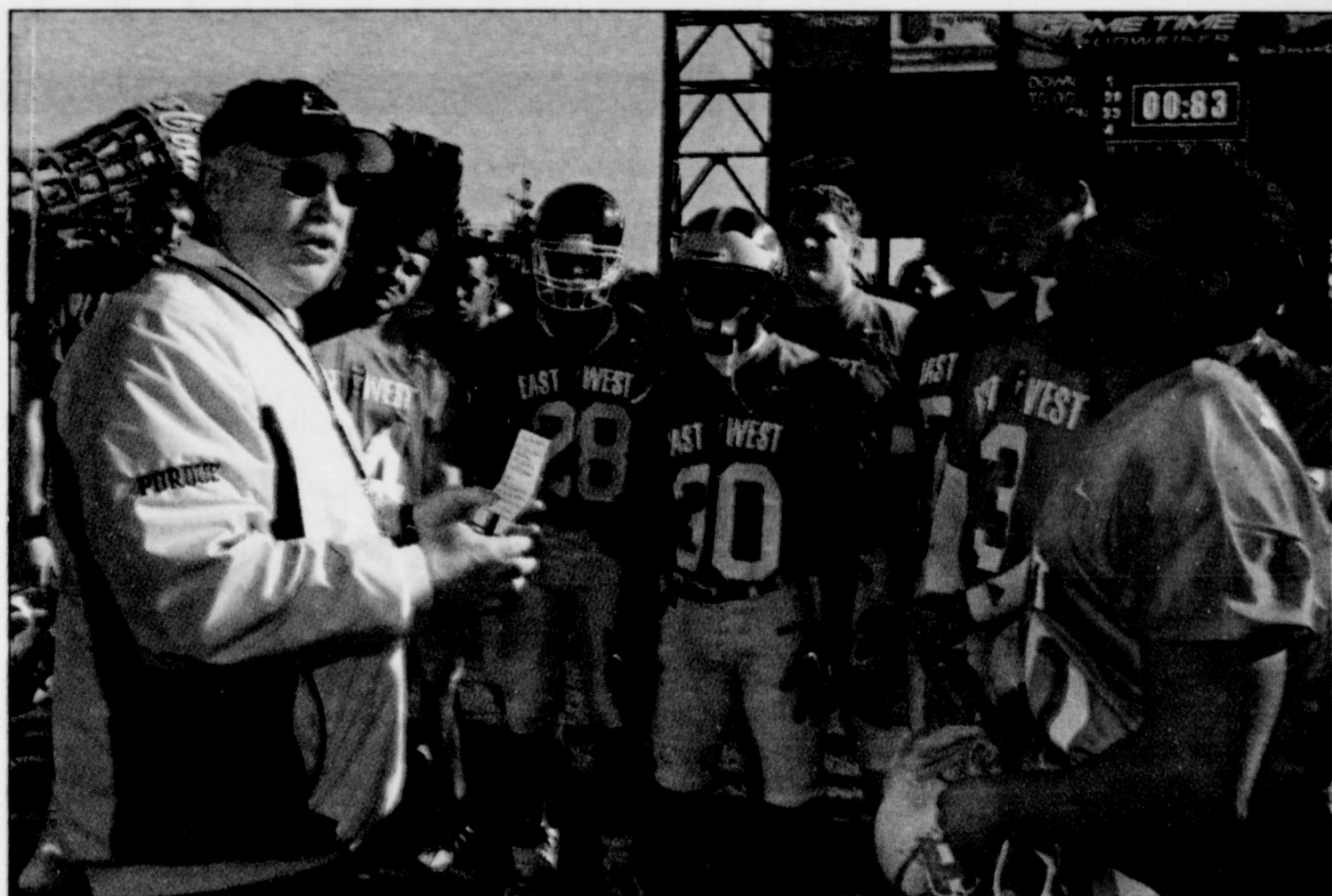
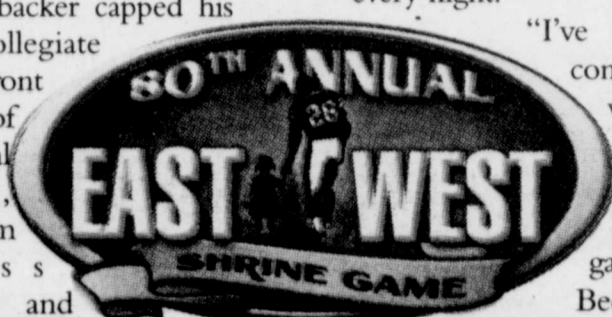
"I've noticed more confidence in him with every conversation," Shotwell said before the game.

Beck's days were filled with practices, some particularly brutal said father Randy Beck. During the nights, the Mustang had many deep philosophical discussions with his roommate for the week, Cal linebacker Wendell Hunter. Also devoutly religious—Hunter's a Baptist, while Beck is an Orthodox Christian—Hunter plans to keep in touch with his new friend.

"Being a sociology major I like to pick people's brains and I thought he was pretty interesting with some of the insights that he gave," Hunter said.

Eighty-eight players from last year's Shrine game subsequently were drafted or offered free agent contracts, and Beck is certainly moving in their direction. He's signed with a Los Angeles-based agent and is preparing for the upcoming pre-draft combine. His dad bought him a car for trips to LA and Beck even finally got a cell phone.

As Beck left the locker room, though, he bemoaned the amount of homework he figured he would have to spend the rest of the weekend making up. After all, missing a week of school to participate in a football extravaganza can put a guy behind.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

The East team huddles before the game and after a week of practice in front of hundreds of scouts and coaches.